

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A wound dressing material comprising a polymeric substrate, a silver salt which is a complex of Ag⁺ and an anionic polycarboxylate polymer, and a dyestuff; wherein the dyestuff is a silver salt photostabilizer.
2. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises a solid bioabsorbable material, selected from the group consisting of collagens, oxidized celluloses, chitosans, galactomannans, glycosaminoglycans, and mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) A wound dressing material according to claim 2, wherein the substrate comprises a solid bioabsorbable material selected from the group consisting of collagens, oxidized celluloses, chitosans, and mixtures thereof.
4. (Original) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of celluloses, alginates, polyacrylates, polyurethanes, polyamides, and mixtures thereof.
5. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the wound dressing material is in the form of a continuous solid sheet, an apertured solid sheet, a web, a woven fabric, a knitted fabric, a nonwoven fabric, a freeze-dried sponge or a solvent-dried sponge.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the silver salt comprises from about 0.01 wt. % to about 5 wt. % of silver, based on the dry weight of the composition.
8. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the dyestuff comprises an antioxidant dyestuff selected from the group consisting of aniline dyes, acridine dyes, thionine dyes, bisnaphthalene dyes, thiazine dyes, azo dyes, anthraquinones, and mixtures thereof.

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9. (Original) A wound dressing material according to claim 8, wherein the antioxidant dyestuff is selected from the group consisting of gentian violet, aniline blue, methylene blue, crystal violet, acriflavine, 9-aminoacridine, acridine yellow, acridine orange, proflavin, quinacrine, brilliant green, trypan blue, trypan red, malachite green, azacrime, methyl violet, methyl orange, methyl yellow, ethyl violet, acid orange, acid yellow, acid blue, acid red, thioflavin, alphazurine, indigo blue, methylene green, and mixtures thereof.
10. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 8, wherein the dyestuff is present in an amount of from about 0.2 to about 2 wt. % based on the dry weight of the material.
11. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric substrate consists essentially of a mixture of an oxidized cellulose with a collagen, a chitosan, or both a collagen and a chitosan.
12. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 11, wherein the material is sterile and packaged in a microorganism-impermeable container.
13. (Previously presented) A wound dressing material according to claim 1, wherein the material has a free radical activity in the diphenylpicrylhydrazyl (DPPH) test for antioxidant activity of at least about 15%.
- 14-19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently amended) A wound dressing material comprising a polymeric substrate, a silver salt which is a complex of Ag⁺ and an anionic carboxylate polymer, and a dyestuff in sufficient amount to stabilize the silver salt.
21. (Currently amended) A wound dressing material comprising a polymeric substrate, a dyestuff, and a photostabilized silver salt which is a complex of Ag⁺ and an anionic carboxylate polymer.